

Oxford Democrat.

NO. 4, VOLUME 8, NEW SERIES.

PARIS, MAINE, TUESDAY, MAY 30, 1848.

OLD SERIES, NO. 13, VOLUME 17.

OXFORD DEMOCRAT,

PUBLISHED EVERY TUESDAY, BY

C. W. ELLIS,

EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

TERMS—ONE DOLLAR AND FIFTY CENTS,

IN ADVANCE.

ADVERTISING. All advertisements for any

purpose, except for the purpose of

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

the purpose of the purpose of the

The breakfast, however, did not turn out to be what it had been cracked up for.

The toast was done a little too much, and the tea wasn't done quite enough, the slop bowl was at the wrong end of the tray, and there were several crumbs on the carpet.

"These things call for improvement," observed Mr. Swallow.

"They should be cared for by a servant," quietly replied Mrs. Swallow.

"Servant," returned Solomon, "I discharged her yesterday. You don't think I can afford to keep a servant and a wife too?"

The lady was again posed, and she said nothing, but the day wore to its close before she could bring herself to believe that Mr. Swallow had actually made use of the words 'servant' and 'wife' in the same sentence.

The next morning at six o'clock, Mr. Swallow again informed his wife that it was time to get up, coupling the remark with the suggestion that in future she must save him the trouble of reminding her of so necessary a duty.

Mrs. Swallow, however, benefited nothing by this soft insinuation, for at the moment, she either was, or pretended to be, fast locked in the arms of Morpheus.

"Don't you hear, Mrs. Swallow," quoth Solomon, "also! a slight conscious snore was the only response from Mrs. Swallow."

Now this was a ticklish point with Solomon, but he was prepared to meet it. "What saith my system on this head?" he said to himself, musingly. "It says that a wife who lies abed in the morning may be profitably reminded of her duty by the judicious application of a coren pin."

—and this magnificent idea had scarcely crossed the threshold of his brain, than he inserted the point of a huge pin into the arm of the sleeper. As might be expected, the intended effect followed the cause, for the astonished Mrs. Swallow sprung from her bed as though she had been thrown from it by an earthquake! But alas! her agility was too strikingly manifested, for she not only left the bed, but dashed his patient lever from the nail which suspended it to the wall, and broke the dial into a thousand pieces.

"What a dreadful dream," ejaculated Mrs. Swallow, pressing her left hand over her wounded arm.

"What a dreadful reality," shouted Mr. Swallow, contemplating the fragile ruins of his demolished time-piece.

"Here we pass over the interval between this occurrence and the time the happy pair in question were seated at breakfast."

"Now, Mrs. Swallow, seeing that I can't always be awake to call you up in the morning, or eat burnt toast, or drink raw tea, &c., it is time I began to instruct you in your duties."

"And what are those, Mr. Swallow?"

"Be silent, madam, if you please; not to talk but to listen, is one of the most important of them."

"Proceed, sir."

And Mr. Swallow looked daggers at her for a moment, and then proceeded—

"From six to eight you are to get up, dress rapidly, so as to create no disturbance, light a fire, air clothing and stockings, sweep rooms, prepare breakfast, and announce the perfection thereof. Light to ten, wash tea things, make beds, rub furniture, and clean windows. Ten till twelve, go to market, and prepare dinner. Twelve to two, devote to dish washing, sweeping up, rubbing furniture. Two till six, spinning, and mending clothes, and darning stockings. Seven to ten."

"From that time till nine, a second course of mending and darning, and then to bed! And this daily course, madam, with a strict observance of the rules of civility, singularity, decorum, and obedience, may in time enable you to do honor to the name of Mrs. Solomon Swallow."

Mrs. Swallow listened quietly to the end, and then mildly inquired,

"And do you really expect this of me, Mr. Swallow?"

"To be sure I do," responded her spouse.

"Then you'll be sadly disappointed, for I shall do no such thing."

"No?"

"No?"

"I've a way to make you?"

"How?"

"Spoon diet, locks, chains, and a cow-hide."

"Mr. Swallow?"

"What?"

"You are a brute!" and Mrs. Swallow threw herself back and looked desperate.

Now this was a climax. Mr. Swallow was called a brute at his own fireside, and worst of all, by his own wife. He, Solomon Swallow, the founder of a system of Matrimonial Observations, called a brute, and by no less a person than Mrs. Swallow. At first he was astonished at such open manifestations of rebellion to his royal will, that he only looked angry; but when he came to himself, he saw that something must be done at once, or the field was lost forever.

"You call me a brute, Mrs. Swallow?"

"A brute?"

"A brute?"

"As you like, sir."

And Mr. Swallow did go mad, but he had a method in his madness, for he asked the cheap

est article of delf on the table, (an old plate with a crack in it,) and dashed it into a thousand fragments on the hearth, as if he was in a tremendous passion.

"How do you like that, Mrs. Swallow?"

"Vastly, Mr. Swallow—try it again."

And again he tried it, (for he had become desperate,) and demolished the cream jug.

"Now," said the lady, "it is my turn," and jumping up she sent the slop bowl to keep company with its ten table companions.

This was too much for Solomon; it snapped the last remaining cord of the little reason he had left, and he slapped his help-mate—(we use the word in its most positive terms)—on her right cheek; but scarcely had the echo of the blow melted into silence, ere the indignant dame seized the tea-pot, and shivered it to atoms against the head of the doctored Mr. Swallow.

Now was this all, for as he was rolling heels over head from the awful concussion, she piled him with the remainder of the tea traps, until there was scarcely a bone in his body that had not echoed to the shock of cups and saucers, and rounds of butter toast.

Unable to carry on the war any longer for that day, Solomon gathered himself up as well as he could, and vowing vengeance, he stuck his pipe in his mouth, and his hands in his pockets; he then commenced whistling a jig to the tune the old cow died on, looking as if he could bite a piece out of the griddle without setting his teeth to an edge. His good lady, too, being determined to follow the example of her lord and master in other matters besides delf-breaking, placed a chair back to back with Solomon's, and after providing herself with a novel, sat herself down, and began reading away as if there was no such thing as beds to make, or stockings to mend, in all Christendom.

Here the affectionate couple sat for six mortal hours, each bent upon setting the other down, and ruminating the while upon their respective positions. But it must be confessed that Mrs. Swallow had the best of the bargain, for independent of Solomon's mangled head, parboiled neck and shoulders, he saw as plain as mud that the dial and crockery must be replaced; so that the reducing of his voluminous system to practice must be attended with an outlay of at least twenty dollars. This being the case, I might as well be hung for a sheep as a lambly thought he, and with that he rose from the chair, stole softly out of the room, and turned the key upon the gentle Mrs. Swallow.

The turning of the key made her aware of his intention, when she rushed to the door, but it was too late.

"Open the door this instant, Mr. Swallow!"

"Not until I have kept you here seven days upon bread and water," returned the victorious Solomon, and he went his way rejoicing.

But alas! how fleeting is human greatness! In about half an hour he returned to see how matters were going on, but he had scarcely put his eye to the key-hole, when he began roaring like a bull, for Mrs. Swallow had torn every one of his fine linen shirts, (that on his back excepted,) into pieces to make a rope to let herself down from the window; nor was this all, upon further examination, he discovered that she had thrown a variety of chair cushions, bed linen, &c., into the yard, to make her descent safe and comfortable.

The archives of the Swallows are silent as to the remaining occurrences of this eventful day, but on the next morning, about seven o'clock, Mr. Swallow popped his head out from under the blanket, and said, "Mrs. Swallow—dear—"

"Yes," returned the lady, "and you may call me when you have lit the fire and put on the tea-kettle!"

Poor Solomon! There was no alternative; so he set about his work with an alacrity which showed that he had the terror of a broken head and demolished body, and of torn linen, running strongly in his memory. In short, Solomon was an altered man. He had to assist in getting breakfast, sweep the room, &c. The next assistance was required in the rubbing of furniture, and the making of beds, and before the week was ended, he was initiated into the mysteries of washing coarse towels.

Degenerate Solomon Swallow! Nay, in after times, when the little Swallows began to gather round him, it was whispered that his better half (and she was his better half) used to employ him at yet more deeply conjugal offices.

"Woman is the presiding genius of home—"

"—if she is false to her trust, no earthly power can avert the evil consequences of her unfaithfulness."

A LAW QUESTION.—"The estate that was left," said an Irishman to his lawyers, "was a pig and a bushel of potatoes, which were to be divided between the heirs, myself and brother."

The Executors shut the pig up with the potatoes, and during the night he cut them up, and now we want to know how we are to divide the property."

"When I die," said Pope, "I should be ashamed to leave enough to build me a monument, if there were a waiting friend above ground. I would enjoy the pleasure," he added, "of what I give, by giving it alive, and seeing another enjoy it."

Abstract of Bank Commissioners' Report.

To the Governor and Council of the State of Maine.

The undersigned, having visited the incorporated banks in the State, transacting business, during the months of September and October last, report, most respectfully, that they have found those banks in a condition, which, in our judgment is safe. Though the liabilities are unusually large, the resources of those banks, we believe are abundant. It is true that the circulation of the bills of the banks is larger than at any former period, which, in view of legal provisions, we cannot command. The individual deposits are unusually large. Yet these items amount only to the sum of four millions seven hundred and forty-one thousand five hundred and fifty-four dollars and fifty-seven cents to wit:

Circulation, \$2,882,674 00

Deposits, 1,850,889 57

These constitute the only liabilities of the banks to the public. The reserved profits belong to the stockholders.

To meet this circulation and these deposits, the banks have in their vaults, four hundred eighty-four thousand seven hundred twenty-eight dollars and eight cents, in specie. Almost half a million—being nearly double the amount of any former year. They have also deposited in the banks out of the State, subject to immediate drafts, one million two hundred sixty-six thousand four hundred forty-eight dollars and ninety-six cents. It is principally deposited in the Suffolk Bank and other banks in the city of Boston some in banks in the city of New York, and some in the banks of other States.

This item is larger by more than half a million of dollars, than it has been in any former year. The banks have also in bills of other banks, two hundred seventy-one thousand eight hundred and forty-five dollars. Although about one-half of this sum is in bills of the banks of this State, and the residue on banks in other States, yet the whole amount constitutes a fund for redeeming the liabilities of the banks, as by an exchange of bills among themselves their circulation would be reduced to that extent. These two subjects, amounting to two millions twenty-three thousand twenty-two dollars and four cents constitute a fund for immediate use, and show almost one dollar of resources for two of immediate liabilities. One dollar to three has generally been considered safe banking. Add to this the loan of five millions five hundred thirty-seven thousand three hundred six dollars thirteen cents, and we have an aggregate fund of seven millions five hundred sixty thousand three hundred twenty-eight dollars seventeen cents, to wit:

Specie, \$484,728 08

Net balances due from other banks, 1,266,448 96

Other bank bills, 271,845 00

Loan, 5,587,930 13

\$7,560,928 17

The loan is of the best character, on short time, in small sums, and to a great extent on actual business paper.

These several sums, together with the real estate, are to cover all liabilities—as well the capital stock belonging to the stockholders as every other responsibility of the banks.

This condensed statement of the condition and resources of the banks of this State, as we apprehend, proves that they are abundantly able, with ordinary vigilance, to meet almost any contingency.

The commissioners regret to state that a great number of the banks have not regarded the limitations of the statutes under which they are organized, and by which they should be regulated and controlled. The banking law of this State has limited the loan of the banks to twice the amount of capital stock actually paid in. This limitation has not in all cases been respected. To give some examples may be useful.

The Kennebec Bank, at Bangor, with a nominal capital of \$100,000, but with an actual capital of only \$28,500, has a loan of \$221,280.

The Bank of Bangor, with a nominal capital of \$100,000, but a real capital of \$41,000, has a loan of \$284,693 78. The Central Bank, at Hallowell, with a capital of \$50,000, has a loan of \$187,122 97. The Kennebec Bank owns \$61,400 of its own stock, out of \$100,000. The Bank of Bangor owns \$55,000 out of the 100,000. It must be clear that this stock thus held by the banks is only nominal. The loan of the bank or other funds have been applied to its purchase, and the actual capital of the Bank of Bangor, and of the Kennebec Bank, has been exhausted to that extent.

Yet, independent of this, there is in these banks, a large excess in loans. Other banks, it will be perceived, have fallen into a similar error, to a greater or less extent. The circulation of the bills of the banks is also limited by law. Under the charter, which expired on the first day of October last, in a bank with a capital of \$50,000 and under, the circulation might not exceed the amount of the capital stock actually paid in. In a bank with a capital over \$50,000, and not exceeding \$150,000, it might not exceed three-fourths of the capital. And in banks with capitals exceeding that sum, the circulation was limited to two-thirds of the capital stock. Under this law of the banks, formal for a long time. This has been denom-

ing acting at the time of our examination. By the law extending the charters of the banks to the 1st day of October, 1857, and which took effect from and after the first day of October last, the limitation of the loan of the banks remains the same as under the former law; but a different provision was adopted in relation to the circulation. By that new act the circulation of the bills of the banks was limited to the amount of one-half the capital stock actually paid in, and three dollars for one dollar of specie in the vaults of the bank over and above fifty per cent of its capital stock; and to the further limitation that the circulation may not exceed the amount of capital stock actually paid in, and the amount of specie in the vaults.

The law applicable to the former charters of the banks, as well as to the new limited the indebtedness of directors.

Many of the banks have violated one or other of the restrictions before spoken of—and some of the banks have disregarded all.

The commissioners are under the painful necessity of again calling the attention of the banks to this subject, and regret to say they have witnessed no improvement in respect to the indebtedness of directors. In some of the banks this limitation has been overlooked, both in an aggregate and individual capacity.

All will grant that statute regulations as to banking are necessary. All will admit that a sound and well regulated currency is indispensable to the prosperity of a state or nation. Experience has abundantly proved that without wise and judicious legal restraints, banking institutions cannot be sustained amid the vicissitudes of commerce and business. But of what avail legal restraints which are not observed? We are proud to believe that no State has a better banking law than Maine, or sounder or better banks. To maintain this condition, so important to individual and public prosperity, should be our constant endeavor. Legal limitations should be fully observed by the banks, and enforced. In no other way, it is believed, can a sound currency be preserved.

Whether the new banking law is an improvement on the old, time and experience must determine. It has been supposed that it will benefit banks with a small capital, without injuring those of larger. Every bank must keep on hand a certain amount of its funds for immediate use. This fund has heretofore been kept by some banks on deposit in the banks of Boston, where the bills of the bank centre in the course of business, and where they are redeemed and returned home for re-emission. This is a very convenient operation for the banks; and very little funds were required for redemption of the bills at the counters of the banks.

The new law requires that a larger amount of their funds should be kept in the vaults of each bank, in order to enable the banks to keep up a due circulation. It is believed that this will not be found injurious to banking operations in this State. As no banks will need a larger fund on hand than safety will at all times require. And in case of an emergency the fund will always be where the law has required it, to wit: in the vaults of the bank. And each bank will be obliged to constantly so limit its issues that in the regular course of business the fund shall always be adequate to demands which may be made on the bank. The residue of the disposable funds of the bank may be deposited in Boston, if the bank judge it expedient, to be used in the redemption of its bills as heretofore. By the new law, a bank with a capital

of \$50,000

And if having \$12,000 in specie in its vaults, at three dollars for one, over and above fifty per cent of its capital stock, may issue bills to the amt of

35,000

Making

61,000

The further limitations is to the amt of the capital stock,

And of specie in its vaults,

So that a bank with a capital stock of \$50,000, with a moderate supply of specie may legally have a circulation of \$61,000. By the former law, but \$50,000.

Boston being the great business mart for New England, the bills of the banks in this state, as well as others, run into that city in the course of business; and an amount equal to the whole circulation of our banks must be redeemed there at least four times in each year. Unless the banks make an arrangement to redeem their bills in Boston and there keep them current and at par, they would immediately depreciate some two or three per cent, while their holders must lose. They would be bought up by brokers and run home on the banks for payment. Some twenty years since an agreement was entered into by certain banks in Boston, called the allied banks, to receive the bills of the country banks at par. The Suffolk Bank was constituted the agent, and for an agreed compensation has ever since performed this service. The Suffolk Bank requires a small permanent deposit from the country banks, and thus conveniently and cheaply for the country banks, and profitably, as it may be supposed, for the Boston banks has this necessary exchange been performed for a long time. This has been denom-

inated the Suffolk System, and has contributed much, as it is supposed, to the soundness of the banks in New England. Thus, should a bank make extravagant issues, the bills in the course of trade would, in large amounts, go to Boston and find their way into the Suffolk Bank. The weekly correspondence of that bank would call for the funds to redeem their bills, and thus an immediate check would be found.

There are two banks in this state which have not entered into this arrangement with the Suffolk bank, viz: the Calais Bank and Mercantile Bank. We are far from censuring their course; yet the consequence is that their bills are from three to six per cent discount. These two banks perform their legal duties to their bill-holders—they pay on presentation at their own counters; but their bills will not circulate beyond a limited sphere. At fifty miles distance they cannot be used without loss, while the bills of the other banks of this state circulate, it is said, without loss, to the furthest bounds of the Union. There are few business men who have not suffered loss by the bills of these banks.—The public are at the expense of redeeming their bills in Boston or paying an equivalent, which the other banks perform themselves.—Should all the other banks in the state take the same course, they would find their own bills in common with others, alike depreciated, running into Boston, and in turn, running home upon them by the aid of brokers, for payment. The Frontiers Bank, the nearest neighbor of the Calais Bank, and a well managed institution, can maintain but a very limited circulation.—With the best location for banking in the state, its circulation is much below that of any other bank. Its bills being in good credit at Boston, are sought for foreign payments, while the depreciated paper of the Calais Bank supplies almost the entire home circulation for the county of Washington.

Twenty-seven banks have taken an extension of their charters to the first day of October, '57, under the act for that purpose passed the 10th day of August, 1846, by accepting a renewal of charter, and notifying the secretary of state of such acceptance.

The South Berwick Bank, at South Berwick, has had its charter extended to 1st Oct, 1857, by special act of the legislature, approved June 24th, 1847, with authority to increase its capital by adding to it \$25,000, to be paid in on or before the 1st day of October, 1847—and on or before the 1st day of April next, in gold or silver.

The Lincoln Bank, at Bath, and the Kennebec Bank, at Bangor, have received new charters, and are in operation under their respective acts of incorporation by the legislature.

The Magalloway Bank, of Camden, was incorporated by the legislature on the 2d day of August, 1847. Whether or not it will go into operation under it, is not known.

The aggregate capital of thirty-four banks, up to the 1st of October last, was three millions forty-four thousand dollars.

The Bank of Westbrook, the Franklin Bank, at Gardiner; the Central Bank, at Hallowell, and the Bank of Bangor, have not applied for extension or renewal of their charters, and of course ought to be closing up their concerns.

Two new banks have been incorporated, to wit: Biddeford Bank, at Biddeford, and Lewiston Falls Bank, at Lewiston. It is understood that the Biddeford Bank will go into operation this winter. We are not informed whether the Lewiston Falls Bank is to be immediately organized.

The operations of our banks have generally increased from 1842, when banking, as every other kind of business, was very much depressed. The last year has been a season of great activity and enterprise, though not of speculation; and the operations of our banks have been very much engaged, as the following comparison will show:

1847. 1846.

Capital stock, \$3,441,000 00 \$3,025,000 00

Circulation, 2,882,674 00 2,190,106 00

Deposits, 1,850,889 57 1,290,891 91

Loans, 5,587,930 13 4,9

there has, during the last ninety days, been a somewhat severe pressure in the monetary affairs of the country, and the moneyed institutions of a neighboring state seem to be giving way before it. Yet it is believed that no bank in Maine will be seriously affected, nor is it presumed that there will be any in New England; nor will a well regulated bank be troubled anywhere. There must be something wrong in the conducting of a banking institution which fails to perform all its duties to the public amid the abundant resources of the country as they now exist. The present pressure must soon pass away. It would indeed be strange, with a greater amount of specie than ever before in the country, with a very large balance of foreign trade in our favor, that this pressure should be of great severity, or of long continuance.

True, from the unexampled pressure of money in England; from the fact that a very large portion of the oldest and strongest mercantile houses there have failed; from the fact that British bills that for a long period have formed a portion of the currency of the commercial world, have ceased to perform their usual office, and become dishonored; from the fact that our merchants, with bills on England in their pockets, have been compelled to find other means to make their purchases and cancel their indebtedness in England, has arisen a call for specie for exportation—but to a small extent compared with the importation of the past year. This call must soon cease, and abundance and prosperity again attend our business affairs.

A. LYON, Bank Commissioner.

Abstract of the Land Agents' Report.

Of the lands held by this state in severalty, there have been sold thirty-two thousand eight hundred and twenty-six acres for the sum of thirteen thousand six hundred and thirty-nine dollars forty-four cents.

There have also been sold four thousand nine hundred and fifty acres, which had reverted to the state, for the non-performance of the conditions of previous sales, for the sum of two thousand eight hundred and seventy-seven dollars nineteen cents.

The quantity of land owned by this state in common with Massachusetts, which has been sold is one hundred thirty-five thousand six hundred and ninety-four acres, the purchase money for the same amounting to one hundred fifty thousand three hundred and twenty-two dollars and eighty-two cents, one half of which sum, viz: seventy-five thousand one hundred and sixty-one dollars and forty-one cents is receivable by Maine.

In obedience to the resolve in favor of the trustees of Thomaston Academy, I have conveyed to them the west half of township numbered seven in the fourth range of townships west from the east line of the State, satisfactory evidence having been adduced of their compliance with the conditions upon which the grant was made.

The amount paid by this department into the state treasury during the past year is one hundred fifteen thousand one hundred and seventy-one dollars and sixty-seven cents, which has been received upon notes, stumpage bonds, and from the sales of lands. The past year has been peculiarly prosperous for the lumbering in common with other business interests, and in consequence the receipts of this office have been larger than anticipated at its commencement.

The following townships of undivided lands have been surveyed, viz: townships numbered nine, ten, eleven, twelve and thirteen, in the eleventh, twelfth and thirteenth ranges west from the east line of the state. The timber upon territory equal to about five townships of this survey, may, by means of the improvements of the Lake Heron Dam Company, be brought down the Penobscot waters, although all of the above townships are located upon the Allagash river, one of the large tributaries of the St. John; this circumstance is regarded as giving large additional value to this portion of the survey over those townships the timber upon which must find its way to market down the river St. John.

Mr. Jacob W. Stinchfield was employed to explore the above townships at the same time for the purpose of estimating the timber thereon, and making examinations necessary to fix the value of the same. This duty he has thoroughly performed upon all excepting townships number thirteen, in the eleventh, twelfth and thirteenth ranges, which he had not time to examine, and by his report there is upon the twelve townships explored, ninety-one millions eight hundred thousand feet board measure of pine timber, suitable for board logs, nearly one half of which, it is believed, may be floated down the Penobscot.

Township letter E, in the first range of townships west from the east line of the state has also been lotted for sale and settlement.

The land agent of Massachusetts and the undersigned, contemplate making further surveys the ensuing season, in that portion of the public domain lying between the west line of the seventh range and the east line of the eleventh range, constituting an area of about twenty-five townships. Preparations will be made to start surveying parties as early in the spring as business can be commenced with advantage.

The legislature at its last session, authorized the land agent of this state to expend upon the Fish River Road, three thousand dollars, provided Massachusetts should expend a like amount for the same purpose.

The agent of Massachusetts, with his usual liberality, concurring in the propriety of the expenditure, we have applied to that object nearly the amount allowed.

Mr. Nathaniel Blake was appointed to superintend the outlay upon the road beyond township number eleven in the sixth range. Under

his superintendence the road from that township to Portage Lake has been turnpiked, with the exception of about one mile through cultivated land. Beyond the Portage Lake he was directed to expend so much as should be indispensably necessary to render the road passable, the amount being unavoidably left to his discretion.

In addition to the foregoing, the land agents of the two states, under an arrangement with Ira Fish, Esq., have caused a bridge to be erected across the Aroostook river, on the line of the Fish River Road, in township number eleven range five, and an alteration to be made in the location of the road of about one mile and a half.

The cost of the Bridge will be twenty-eight hundred dollars, of which sum eighteen hundred dollars are to be paid by this state and the commonwealth of Massachusetts, and the residue by means of private subscriptions made for that purpose by the citizens of that township, whose liberality and enterprise are entitled to much commendation.

The bridge is a valuable and permanent structure, the want of which heretofore has been much felt by the citizens of that portion of our state, and by those having occasion to travel in that quarter. The alteration in the road has not yet been completed, but will be early the ensuing summer. When this is finished, the amount expended will be some less than that authorized by the legislature at its last session; the precise sum I am not able to state, in consequence of vouchers not being yet returned to this office, and the settlement of these accounts must therefore, be postponed to the ensuing year.

I will add, that passing as the Fish River Road does in its almost entire length, through lands not taxable, it will be incumbent on the legislature to authorize expenditures, from time to time, to open it more thoroughly, and to keep it in repair, as otherwise the benefit of previous expenditures will be in a great measure lost.

Upon the Military Road, three hundred and eighty-five dollars have been expended in making the ordinary repairs; the entire amount authorized being five hundred dollars. The balance will probably be called for before the meeting of the legislature, and I would recommend that the expenditure of a like amount be authorized for repairing this road the ensuing year.

A bridge has likewise been constructed over the Mattawamkeag river where the road from Smyrna to the Aroostook Road crosses the same, at a cost of six hundred dollars. This was done by contract with John Rollins, Esq., and at the joint charge of Maine and Massachusetts.

The appropriation for the repair of the Barling and Houlton Road through the town of Baileyville, has been expended under the superintendence of John N. Farrar Esq., whose accounts have been settled. The appropriation for the repairs of the same road through the Indian township, has been expended under the supervision of Putnam Roll, Esq., whose accounts have likewise been audited, allowed and paid.

John Y. Putnam, Esq., was appointed the agent to expend the sum appropriated for the repair of the road through township number eleven, at the monument, which service has been performed, and the bills paid.

A contract has been made with Putnam Roll, Esq., to rebuild the Lewy's Island Bridge, for nine hundred and seventy-five dollars, which work by the terms of the contract is to be completed by the 20th of March next, so that no interruption will occur to the travel upon the Houlton and Barling road.

Under the resolve providing for building a road through Dunn's Notch, in Andover north surplus, I have contracted with J. A. Bragg, Esq., to construct the same in conformity with the provisions of said resolve, and for the sum authorized thereby to be paid.

Andrew Hall, Esq., was appointed by my predecessor, to expend the appropriation for repairing the Moosehead Lake Road, and a large part of the appropriation has been advanced to him, but his account has not yet been received.

No expenditures have been made upon the Eastern Aroostook Road the past year.

During the year past, but few sales have been made of settling lands, owing, in no small degree, to the great depression of the lumbering interest upon the St. John. The farmers upon the Aroostook in former years have found a ready market for their surplus products among the lumbermen in that region and at richly remunerating rates. The decline in the price of timber in 1846, induced the passage of a resolve prohibiting the granting of permits to cut timber upon the St. John and its tributaries, which has to a very large extent arrested the lumbering business in that quarter and thereby seriously affected the agricultural interest.

It is confidently hoped that ere long it will be proper once more to open the Aroostook and St. John valleys to lumbering operations, which will again afford a vent for the surplus agricultural products of that region, and in no small degree stimulate the settlement of the public domain. I would not, however, recommend a change of the law at present, any further than to authorize the granting of permits to cut and haul timber sufficient for domestic consumption and manufacture; that this is expedient must appear from the fact that upon the St. John and its tributary streams there are twenty miles for the manufacture chiefly of small lumber which depend for their stock almost entirely upon the public domain. Sound policy dictate that these mills should not be compelled to idle, as without a change in the law they soon must.

The past year, permits have been granted to gather up and haul the down pine upon various townships, being the refuse left by those who have heretofore made square timber upon the same. It was conceived that this course did not militate with the terms of the law, and it is clearly the dictate of a judicious economy to make sale of that, now, which in a short time

must decay and become of no value; no serious inconvenience will therefore arise the present year to the mill owners, from the existing prohibition upon the granting of permits in that quarter, but this source of supply is but limited, and hence I recommend the change in the law above referred to. The intent of the resolve prohibiting the granting of permits upon the St. John and its tributaries was undoubtedly to put a stop to the cutting the square timber for the British market, and the proposed alteration would not in the least conflict with that line of policy.

In relation to the amount due to this state for stumpage of timber cut upon the rivers St. John and Aroostook, under permits granted in 1845, I have to say that the commission created by resolve of the legislature at its last session, met and heard the parties and fixed upon a basis for settlement, all which will be submitted in a report of that body.

The meeting was held in October last and measures were taken to notify persons interested and to secure our demands, but owing to the lateness of the season and the financial disasters occurring at that time in Great Britain seriously affecting the business of the province of New Brunswick, but little progress has been made in obtaining additional security, though it is confidently expected that nearly all may be adjusted in the course of the next season.

The quantity of lands at this time belonging to Maine, including her interest in the individual territory, is about two millions three hundred thousand acres, but it cannot be stated with precise accuracy, for the reason that an area supposed to contain about fifty townships as yet remains unsurveyed.

It is impossible to fix the actual value of the public domain, but it is believed that it may be safely stated at half a dollar per acre, as being within the amount which the state will realize for it. Many tracts are worth much more than that sum while others are worth less.

I deem it proper to suggest that by the terms of the charter of the Heyon Lake Dam Company granted in 1846, the legislature is authorized to fix the amount of toll which that corporation may demand for passing its works; this power has not yet been exercised; but inasmuch as the lumber upon several of the townships surveyed the past season will use the erections of that company in its transit to market, it will be proper to adjust this toll before sale is made of these tracts or operations permitted thereon.

The receipts of the land office are necessarily affected by the same general causes which influence all other kinds of business; but should the spring prove propitious for bringing to market the lumber cut the ensuing season, the payments of this department into the treasury for the year 1848 will not fall short of one hundred thousand dollars.

SAMUEL CONY, Land Agent.
December 31st, 1847.

FOREIGN NEWS.

The Steamer Caledonia arrived at Boston on Sunday, the 21st.

The state of England is comparatively quiet. A Provisional Government of Milan has expelled the Jesuits. Fifteen convents of that society in Lombardy have been closed, and their entire property sequestrated.

ENGLAND AND IRELAND. The Chartist Convention has resumed its sittings in London, but the proceedings are not of much general interest.

In the House of Commons, on Thursday night, Lord Palmerston announced that Prussia and Denmark have accepted the mediation of Great Britain, and that negotiations are now going on for an amicable settlement of all the questions in dispute. The importance of this announcement, particularly and commercially, can hardly be overrated.

FRANCE. The Elections in France have resulted in the success of the Moderate party.

Mr. Rus, the Minister at Paris, has presented to the Provisional Government, letters of recognition to the French Republic from the Government of the United States.

The French government has abolished slavery in all the colonies and possessions of the republic.

DENMARK AND HOLSTEIN. Hamburg papers give some further particulars of the capture of Schleswig by the German troops. During the retreat of the Danes some further attacks were made upon them by the Germans, whose troops have entered Eidersburg, whence some Danes retired on board their ships of war, which were detained in the harbor by an easterly wind, and were unable to have changed their anchorage some time with the Russian artillery.

We understand that the accounts published of the killed and wounded are by no means exaggerated, but in fact uncorrected. It is further asserted, that 2000 men with many officers, were buried in one grave near Danzig.

The Danes are replying with extraordinary retreating, having no chance against the overwhelming force of the Russian and Prussian troops.

POLAND. In Poland the most frightful excesses continue to occur; bloody engagements take place perpetually between the landwehr and the military, and attacks on the lives and property of the Jews and Germans are the order of the day. Prince Czartoryski has addressed a letter to Count Arnim, at Berlin, full of bitter disappointment at the inaction of all the hopes held out by the Prussian Government of the restoration of Poland. He has quoted Berlin "with a heavy heart from the disappointment of these bright anticipations."

A letter from the frontier of Poland states that the Russian military forces concentrated at this moment in the kingdom of Poland consist of army corps of 40,000 men each.

RUSSIA. Letters from St. Petersburg, dated 18th ult., state from authority, that a treaty of offensive and defensive between Russia, Sweden and Denmark, is arranged, and will positively be ratified in the event of an entry of German troops in Schleswig, in which case Denmark will be supported by the whole forces of the other two powers.

The scheme of Nicholas is stated to be no less than a union of all Slavonic tribes into one gigantic Federative monarchy, and consequently the attainment of an unlimited sway over Europe. Immense military preparations are still going on through Russia.

TRANCEY. A letter from Constantinople, dated the 17th ult., confirms the report of a revolt in Moldavia. Letters from Galatz state that on the 9th of April, Jersey was the scene of a terrible disorder. It appears that an attempt was made at a revolution, and the lives of the Prince and his family were in danger.

Russia has offered its intervention in case of any further breaking out, and it was understood that the offer had been accepted.

BOHEMIA. In Bohemia, the dissension between the Slavonic and Teutonic races continues. The German flag has been torn down, and the Bohemians are said to have menaced the Germans with expulsion. The favorite idea of the insurgent parties is the formation of a great western Slavonic state, in which Russia would be included. The antipathy of the Jews is more violent than ever.

The proposed fundamental law for the constitution of the German empire was laid before the German Diet on 26th ult., by the committee of 17 men of confidence.

Mehemet Ali is at the point of death, with no hopes of recovery.

OXFORD DEMOCRAT.

"The Union—It must be preserved."

PARIS, MAINE, MAY 30, 1848.

A Voice to the People.

By referring to another column the reader will notice that Gen. LEWIS CASS, of Michigan, and Gen. WM. O. BUTLER, of Kentucky, have been nominated by the Baltimore Convention, under circumstances the most conspicuous, as the Democratic candidates for President and Vice President of the United States. The result thus far can but be gratifying to every democrat. A better selection could not have been made; and their triumphant success can hardly be doubted. Of the history and qualifications of these distinguished men, and their claims upon the people we may speak at some future time. It being the duty of every democrat to consult the interest of the great party of our State and Nation to which he belongs, it may be well to look back upon its progress, and its principles, to prepare to act more understandingly in relation to the present and the future. To this end we have long thought of preparing a few articles, and as now is a good time, we commence by offering a few preliminary remarks by way of introduction to the series.

The Democratic Party, founded upon the broad basis of the rights of the people, and the sovereignty of the States, has struck its roots deep in the affections and the confidence of the public. It has never been ashamed to take to itself the appellation of the "Democratic Republican party." It sprung up in the days when the infusion of Democracy into our institutions was cherished by its leaders as its most valued ingredient, and when no man who ranged himself under its banners ever blasphemed the name of "Democratic Republican." It was designed from its infancy to that perpetual struggle which, in every State has been found to be the price of liberty. It grappled in its cradle with the spirit of Feudalism. It contended, and ultimately extended in its practical victories over the Union. But it was destined to contend with an unyielding adversary. It struggled hard with the shattered remnant of Federalism through the administrations of Mr. Jefferson and Mr. Madison, and in the last years of the latter, found its predestined foe rallying under the banner of an anti-war party, and the H. R. Convention. It has since been encountered in various forms by the same unyielding opponent, and for the last thirty years it has been continually wrestling with it in the different shapes which it has assumed. One while it is the spirit of monopoly, building up, by odious tariffs, princely fortunes in one portion of the Union at the expense of another. Then it is the monster power, sweeping all before it—rearing its gorgon crest, and boldly assuming to sway the destinies of the nation, until, in a spirit of magnanimity, it is abandoned the power to which it arrogantly attributed the salvation of the country. And panics and falsehoods and false promises, and every other possible means were resorted to, to compel or induce the people to submit to their will. Yet in all these conflicts, "the Democratic Republican party," have maintained their principles without striking; and what was democracy in the beginning is democracy now under the same name. In war, they have been found to a man under the flag of their country, and in peace, under the banner of the Constitution. They have been consistent and uncompromising defenders of the rights of the States, but they have ever been at the same time the devoted supporters of our glorious Union. From an innumerable handful in the early days of our Republic, they soon multiplied and extended themselves by the influence of their liberal principles; and at the commencement of the present century, the reins of government had fallen into their hands. For fifty years, with the exception of one or two disastrous intervals they have been in the ascendancy. During that time, whatever evils may be alleged, the prosperity of the nation, in extent, in population, in wealth, in the comforts and re-

finements of life, and in the general happiness and prosperity of the people, our progress has been without a parallel in the history of the world. Abroad the name of "America" is an honor; for it has been exalted not merely by the laurels achieved in battle and by the intrepid assertion of our rights, than by the peaceful fruits of that great principle of our party, "unflinching respect for the rights of other nations—unshrinking defence of our own." Such are the happy results of the predominance of our councils, and among the people, for fifty years past, of the principles of Democratic Republicanism, the influence of which is now felt in favor of liberty throughout all Europe. Are they evidences of that miracle which, for the whole of that time, has been cast into our teeth? And yet the tongue of reproach has never been still. Under Jefferson and Madison, the seers, and the prophets of national ruin, could see destruction and the overthrow of our institutions, as distinctly as they afterwards saw them in the excited era of Gen. Jackson, and the peaceful administration of his calm and self-poised, though firm and steadfast successor, or as they now foretell them in the wise, energetic and independent Administration of our present Chief Magistrate—or in the continued success of the Democratic party. Their vaticinations have been continually falsified by events. What confidence, then, should be reposed in them? Shall we lend too ready an ear to imputations of misrule and corruption, and the undue influence of power, which have been a thousand times thrown out with reckless boldness against every Republican Administration, that is true to its principles, because the ceaseless diligence of their adversaries may have discovered some error in the conduct of affairs—some spot or blemish on the page of its history? Remember that freedom from error is not the lot of humanity! Remember how often they have cried "wolf" when you have yourselves declared there was "no wolf!" Remember how often they branded a chosen servant with the appellation of tyrant, who in the retirement of old age evinced his perfect freedom from the lawless ambition of tyrannizing over his country? Judge from these specimens how far we may trust the reckless denunciations which are daily uttered against the gentleman now at the head of the Administration, and probably will be against the one you would have succeeded him. Judge him, and the candidate nominated as his successor, as you would be judged yourselves; and if in the tenor of his Administration you perceive that he is true to the principles of the party to which you attach yourselves, and judging from the past have reason to believe his proposed successor will be: let not minor considerations induce you to abandon, not only them, but your party—not only the Administration of Democracy, but yourselves. For depend upon it, the present is a contest for predominance of the principles of "Democratic Republicanism." Think you to sustain these principles by suffering or uniting in the election of a Whig, even if he be but a moderate Whig, which means that he is moderately opposed to Democracy, when they have ever repudiated the name of our party—and adopted an appellation which is used to cover every shade and variety of opinion.

STEAMBOAT EXPOSITION ON THE KENNEBEC.

On Tuesday last, at about 11 o'clock, A. M. one of the Waterville steamboats, called the "Halifax," blew up in the lock of the Kennebec dam, while being locked through in its trip down the river, destroying the lives of most of the crew, and badly injuring others on board. The report of the explosion drew a large number of citizens to the scene of destruction. The boat was a complete wreck—the funnel, upper works, and parts of the engine, were scattered by the blast. A clear of the boiler, weighing between fifty and sixty pounds, was found some forty rods distant from the scene of the disaster.

Each being the condition of the boat, the anxiety to learn the extent of the loss of life occasioned by the disaster was intense—few could know the number on board.

It was soon ascertained that the number on board did not exceed sixteen or eighteen, and that some six or eight of these must have fallen victims. Four dead bodies were soon found, and two more in the course of the day. Three others have since been found.

The Halifax was a new boat, this being only her second trip to Augusta. The accident is said to have originated in a neglect to let off steam, on the arrival of the boat at the dam; but the precise cause is also said to have been connected with a trial of speed between this and another Waterville boat, in their passage down the river. How this may be we know not. We hope, however, the matter will undergo investigation. We understand that a jury of inquiry is now or has been in session, who will inquire into the causes of the disaster, and the results of their labors will probably be made public very soon.

Orders have been given for the immediate removal of the Wampanoag Indians from Iowa, to their new home north of the St. Peters river. They are now collecting, and are to start about the first of June. They number about 3000. The extent of country which will thus be added to Iowa is about 40 miles wide, and 100 miles long, and most of it as new soil as is to be found in the State, with strong indications upon a portion of it, of great mineral wealth.

Nearly as many votes were given in the city of Paris alone at the recent election (210,000), as under Louis Philippe were given in the whole kingdom.

A new counterfeiter on the five dollar bill of the Connecticut River Banking Company at Hartford, Ct., have made their appearance.

BALTIMORE CONVENTION.

We are unable to give more than the result of the doings of the Baltimore Convention this week. For this we are indebted to a friend for a copy of Saturday morning's Argus containing the following telegraphic despatch.

GEN. CASS NOMINATED!

"We learn by the telegraph to the Umpire yesterday afternoon, that on Thursday, Gen. CASS was nominated on the fourth ballot, as candidate for President. The ballot was as follows: Cass, 179; Buchanan, 30; Woodbury, 38; Butler 3; Worth, 1.

"The vote of the New England States was as follows: Maine 9 for Woodbury; New Hampshire 5 for Woodbury; Massachusetts 4 for Woodbury and 8 for Cass; Vermont 6 for Cass; Rhode Island 4 for Cass; Connecticut 8 for Woodbury.

"Gen. W. O. BUTLER received 253 votes and was declared nominated as the candidate for Vice President. The delegation from New York did not vote.

"Thus is this important and interesting matter settled. The Convention has selected a strong and highly popular ticket. It will be elected by a TRIUMPHANT MAJORITY."

IMPORTANT FROM MEXICO. Schooner May arrived at New Orleans on the 18th from Vera Cruz. At last a quorum of the members of congress are said to have assembled at Queretaro, and to be waiting the arrival of the American commissioners to commence their deliberations on the peace question. The speculations as to the result are of the most opposite and conflicting character.

A pronunciamento from Queretaro dated April 27, 11 o'clock at night, announced that the Mexican nation, by the omnipotent exercise of its will, has discarded what is called the general government of the nation established at Queretaro and prostrated to the earth its treacherous oppressors at 9 o'clock on the night of this day. It did this without any resistance, and proclaimed the only plan which under present circumstances can save the country. This was war—war without truce or quarter, until an honorable peace is conquered! Whether this is anything more than a handbill remains to be seen. American deserters are said to be continually arriving at Queretaro. The garrison at Queretaro is now composed of 920 men.

The Philadelphia Bulletin of Wednesday evening publishes the following paragraph:—We have received nothing from the South in relation to the matter.

IMPORTANT RUMOR. As we go to press, the rumor is rife in the streets, and it is generally credited, that the Treaty of Peace has been ratified by the Mexican Congress! The excitement is great in consequence; but as yet we have no evidence to induce us to place any confidence in the rumor.

THE MAINE WHIG STATE CONVENTION at Augusta, on Thursday last, selected Elijah L. Hamlin, of Bangor, as the candidate for governor. He is one of the first who took ground for Gen. Taylor in this state.

Hon. Edward Kent of Bangor, and George C. Getchell of North Anson, both Taylor men, have been elected delegates to the whig national convention, Charles S. Davies of Portland, and B. W. Hinkley of Bluehill, both friends of Taylor, were chosen for electors at large.

THE NEW POSTAGE BILL. The following are given as some of the principal provisions of the bill reported by the Post Office Committee of the U. S. House of Representatives:

The circulation of all newspapers free of postage within thirty miles of the place of publication, not above the superficies of 1200 square inches.

Under one hundred miles and over thirty, one-half cent, over one hundred and for any distance one cent.

Newspapers above 1000 inches to pay pamphlet and Magazine postage, which is two cents for the first ounce, and half of one cent for all greater distances.

Newspapers under 500 square inches go free for the first thirty miles, and pay quarter of one cent for all greater distances. Transient newspapers pay two cents when not sent from this office of publication.

Publishers of pamphlets, magazines and periodicals, are allowed a free exchange, the same as the publishers of newspapers.

Drowned, in Songo Pond, on Thursday, 9th inst, Mr. Ephraim Holt of Bethel, aged 31. He went out early in the morning for the purpose of fishing, got upon a raft, and, it is supposed, accidentally slipped off, and being unable to swim, perished.

THE COURT OF INQUIRY. The New Orleans Crescent states on the authority of the Gen. Cushing, that the next meeting of the Court would, in all probability, be at Washington or some place near there, and that there was no telling when the investigation would end.

ATROCITIES IN YUCATAN. The accounts from Yucatan state the dreadful barbarities practiced by the Indians on their captives. More than thirty thousand men, women and children have been assassinated. One hundred and seventy-one women and children were shut up in an enclosure, where they suffered every brutality, and after thirteen hours torment, were all murdered.

Some folks say that a poor excuse is better than none, but we heard of a woman the other day, whose neighbor sent in to borrow an old kettle, and was answered that she didn't see how she could spare it, as one of her children was kind of sick.

